

STANDING ORDERS 98-111

PRIVATE BILLS

Introduced by Petition

98. All Private Bills shall be introduced on petition, which is read and forthwith referred to the committee on standing orders. When the petition is favourably reported on by the committee, a motion is made for leave to introduce the Bill.

(1951 SO 63)

Certificate from Clerk

99. No petition to introduce a Private Bill shall be considered unless accompanied by a certificate from the Clerk that the fees applicable to such Bill have been received by the Clerk.

(1951 SO 64)

Suspension of rules

100. In case of urgent and pressing necessity, a motion for the suspension or modification of any rule applying to Private Bills, or petitions for Private Bills may be entertained by the House, but no such motion will be entertained unless the same has been reported by the committee on standing orders and the committee shall state the grounds for recommending such suspension.

(1951 SO 65)

Select Committee

101. Every Private Bill when read a second time shall be referred to a select committee and all petitions for and against shall also be referred to such committee.

(1951 SO 66)

Notice

102. No committee on any Private Bill is to consider the same until after one week's notice of the sitting of such committee has been posted on the notice board.

(1951 SO 67)

103. All persons whose interests, rights or property

Proof of consent of interested parties

may be affected by any Private Bill shall, when required to do so, appear before the committee touching their consent, or may, if required so to do, send their consent in writing, proof and verification of which may be demanded by the committee. In every case the committee upon every Bill for incorporating a company may require proof, in writing or otherwise, verification of which writing may be demanded by the committee, that the persons whose names appear in the Bill as comprising the company are of full age, and in a position to effect the objects contemplated; and have consented to become incorporated, and the committee shall among other things report accordingly.

(1951 SO 68)

Private interests protected

104. The select committee on a Private Bill may hear the promoters and opponents or their counsel, consider their private interests and determine in a quasi-judicial capacity, whether the promoters of the Bill have justified their request for a privilege and whether private interests are properly protected.

(1951 SO 69)

Hearing of evidence

105. While a select committee is hearing evidence, Members of the House who are not on the committee have a right to be present but not to interfere in the proceedings. When the committee is about to deliberate, all the counsel, witnesses, agents and strangers are obliged to withdraw. It is customary for Members of the House to withdraw also.

(1951 SO 70)

Majority vote

106. All questions before a select committee on a Private Bill are decided by a majority of voices including the voice of the Chairperson; and whenever the voices are equal, the Chairperson has a second or casting vote.

(1951 SO 71)
*Bills signed by Chair &
Clerk*

107. The Chairperson of the committee shall sign with his or her name at length a printed copy of the Bill on which amendments are fairly written and shall also initial the preamble and the various sections of the Bill as they are agreed to, and also any amendments which may be made or clauses added in committee; and another copy of the Bill shall be similarly signed and initialled by the clerk of the committee who shall file the same with the Clerk of the House or attach it to the report.

(1951 SO 72)

*Report of Select
Committee*

108. The committee to which any Private Bill has been referred shall report the same to the House in every case; and when the committee on any Private Bill report to the House that they have made any material change in the preamble of the Bill or that the preamble has not been proven to their satisfaction they must also state the grounds upon which they have made such decisions, and no Bill, the preamble of which has been reported as not proven, shall be placed upon the orders of the day unless by special order of the House.

(1951 SO 73)

Order Paper

109. Private Bills reported otherwise to the House by such committee shall be placed upon the orders of the day following reception of the report, for consideration in Committee of the Whole, in their proper order, next after Bills referred to a Committee of the Whole House.

(1951 SO 74)

Notice of amendments

110. No important amendment may be proposed to any Private Bill, in a Committee of the Whole House, or at the Third Reading of the Bill unless one day's notice has been given.

(1951 SO 75)

Fees

111. Any person seeking to obtain a Private Bill giving an exclusive privilege or profit, or private or corporate advantage shall be required to deposit with the Clerk of the House a copy of the Bill together with a sum of money to cover the printing of the Bill and such amounts as may be prescribed by the Commission of

Internal Economy of the House of Assembly.

(1951 SO 76 R&S 1999)